EMERGENCY PICKETLINE TO DEFEND FREE SPEECH AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Mayor Fischl has proclaimed that Gay Rights advocates will no longer be allowed to participate in city-sponsored forums. This action is a blatent attempt to deny us fundemental civil rights that belong to everyone in this country. While the ordinance that has the endorsement of the Allentown Human Relations Commission and which we fully support has not yet become law, the First Amendment has been ratified and has been the law for nearly 200 years.

Denying the advocates of human rights for all the right to participate is still another attempt to sweep the issue of rights for gay men and lesbians under the All-American City's rug.

City-sponsored forums include Neighborhood Associations, Art Museum events, Super Sunday, various parades to observe historic or traditional holidays, School Board meetings, City Council meetings, and even meetings of the Human Relations Commission itself.

Are gay people and those who support their demands to be barred from all or even one of these events? NO, they are not!

We, residents of Allentown and nearby communities, put Mayor Fischl and the municipal government on notice.

Wherever human rights are denied, there is justified ferment to correct these wrongs.

Any forum, event, meeting, or occasion that is open to the public is also open to Gay Rights advocates. We will use peaceful legal means like our picketline this evening to make our plight known.

Until the Human Relations Ordinance becomes the law in Allentown, and even after if need be, we will speak out against denial of equal employment, housing and other forms of harassment against any human being.

May 3,1978

C.C.B.C. Box 4031 Allentown, Pa. 18105

LGBT History Project
of the LGBT Center of Central PA

Located at Dickinson College
Archives & Special Collections

http://archives.dickinson.edu/

Documents Online

Title: *Citizens Concerned for a Better Community (CCBC) Picket Line Flyer*

Date: May 3, 1978

Location: LGBT-001 Joseph W. Burns Collection

Contact:
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